

§ 302.34

(4) If a State elects to recover costs under paragraph (d)(1)(ii) of this section, the IV-D agency may attempt to seek reimbursement from the individual who owes a support obligation for any costs paid by the individual who is receiving IV-D services and pay all amounts reimbursed to the individual who is receiving IV-D services.

(5) If a State elects to recover costs under this section, the IV-D agency must notify, consistent with the option selected, either the individual who is receiving IV-D services under paragraphs (a)(1) (i) or (iii) of this section, or the individual who owes a support obligation that such recovery will be made. In an interstate case, the IV-D agency where the case originated must notify the individual receiving IV-D services of the States that recover costs.

(6) The IV-D agency must notify the IV-D agencies in all other States if it recovers costs from the individual receiving IV-D services.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control numbers 0960-0253, 0960-0385, 0960-0402, and 0970-0107)

[49 FR 36772, Sept. 19, 1984, as amended at 50 FR 19648, May 9, 1985; 51 FR 37731, Oct. 24, 1986; 56 FR 8003, Feb. 26, 1991; 61 FR 67240, Dec. 20, 1996]

§ 302.34 Cooperative arrangements.

The State plan shall provide that the State will enter into written agreements for cooperative arrangements under §303.107 with appropriate courts, law enforcement officials, Indian tribes or tribal organizations. Such arrangements may be entered into with a single official covering more than one court, official, or agency, if the single official has the legal authority to enter into arrangements on behalf of the courts, officials, or agencies. Such arrangements shall contain provisions for providing courts and law enforcement officials with pertinent information needed in locating noncustodial parents, establishing paternity and securing support, to the extent that such information is relevant to the duties to be performed pursuant to the arrangement. They shall also provide for assistance to the IV-D agency in carrying out the program, and may relate to

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any other matters of common concern. Under matters of common concern, such arrangements may include provisions for the investigation and prosecution of fraud directly related to paternity and child and spousal support, and provisions to reimburse courts and law enforcement officials for their assistance.

[54 FR 30222, July 19, 1989, as amended at 61 FR 67240, Dec. 20, 1996; 64 FR 6248, Feb. 9, 1999]

§ 302.35 State parent locator service.

The State plan shall provide as follows:

(a) The IV-D agency shall establish a State PLS using:

(1) All relevant sources of information and records available in the State, and in other States as appropriate; and

(2) The Federal PLS of the Department of Health and Human Services.

(b)(1) The IV-D agency shall establish a central State PLS office and may also designate additional IV-D offices within the State to submit requests to the Federal PLS.

(2) To designate more than two additional IV-D offices within the State, the IV-D agency must obtain written approval from the Office.

(c) The State PLS shall only accept requests to use the Federal PLS from:

(1) Any State or local agency or official seeking to collect child and spousal support obligations under the State plan;

(2) A court that has authority to issue an order or to serve as the initiating court in an action to seek an order against a noncustodial parent for the support and maintenance of a child, or any agent of such court;

(3) The resident parent, legal guardian, attorney, or agent of a child who is not receiving aid under title IV-A of the Act; and

(4) Authorized persons as defined in §303.15 of this chapter if an agreement is in effect under §303.15 to use the Federal PLS in connection with parental kidnapping or child custody or visitation cases.

(5) A State agency that is administering a program operated under a State plan under subpart 1 of part B, or a State plan approved under subpart 2 of part B or under part E.

(d) The State PLS shall, subject to the privacy safeguards required under section 454(26) of the Act, disclose only the information described in sections 453 and 463 of the Act to the authorized persons specified in such sections for the purposes specified in such sections.

[46 FR 54556, Nov. 3, 1981, as amended at 47 FR 57281, Dec. 23, 1982; 50 FR 19648, May 9, 1985; 64 FR 6248, Feb. 9, 1999; 68 FR 25303, May 12, 2003]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 73 FR 56443, Sept. 26, 2008, §302.35 was revised, effective Mar. 23, 2009. For the convenience of the user, the revised text is set forth as follows:

§ 302.35 State parent locator service.

The State plan shall provide as follows:

(a) *State PLS.* The IV-D agency shall maintain a State PLS to provide locate information to authorized persons for authorized purposes.

(1) *For IV-D cases and IV-D purposes by the IV-D agency.* The State PLS shall access the Federal PLS and all relevant sources of information and records available in the State, and in other States as appropriate, for locating custodial parents, noncustodial parents, and children for IV-D purposes.

(2) *For authorized non-IV-D individuals and purposes—*

(i) The State PLS shall access and release information authorized to be disclosed under Section 453(a)(2) of the Act from the Federal PLS and, in accordance with State law, information from relevant in-state sources of information and records, as appropriate, for locating custodial parents, noncustodial parents, and children upon request of authorized individuals specified in paragraph (c) of this section, for authorized purposes specified in paragraph (d) of this section.

(ii) The State PLS shall not release information from the computerized support enforcement system required under part 307 of this chapter, IRS information, or financial institution data match information, nor shall the State PLS forward a non-IV-D request to another State IV-D agency.

(iii) The State PLS need not make subsequent location attempts if locate efforts fail to find the individual sought unless a new request is submitted.

(b) *Central State PLS requirement.* The IV-D program shall maintain a central State PLS to submit requests to the Federal PLS.

(c) *Authorized persons.* The State PLS shall accept requests for locate information only from the following authorized persons:

(1) Any State or local agency or official providing child and spousal support services under the State plan;

(2) A court that has authority to issue an order or to serve as the initiating court in an action to seek an order against a noncusto-

dial parent for the support and maintenance of a child, or any agent of such court;

(3) The resident parent, legal guardian, attorney, or agent of a child who is not receiving assistance under title IV-A of the Act only if the individual:

(i) Attests that the request is being made to obtain information on, or to facilitate the discovery of, any individual in accordance with section 453(a)(2) of the Act for the purpose of establishing parentage, establishing, setting the amount of, modifying, or enforcing child support obligations;

(ii) Attests that any information obtained through the Federal or State PLS shall be used solely for these purposes and shall be otherwise treated as confidential;

(iii) Provides evidence that the requestor is the parent, legal guardian, attorney, or agent of a child not receiving assistance under title IV-A, and if an agent of such a child, evidence of a valid contract that meets any requirements in State law or written policy for acting as an agent and, if a parent, attestation that he or she is the resident parent.

(iv) Pays the fee required for Federal PLS services under section 453(e)(2) of the Act and §303.70(f)(2)(i) of this chapter, if the State does not pay the fee itself. The State may also charge a fee to cover its costs of processing the request, which must be as close to actual costs as possible, so as not to discourage requests to use the Federal PLS. If the State itself pays the fee for use of the Federal PLS or the State PLS in a non-IV-D case, Federal financial participation is not available in those expenditures.

(4) Authorized persons as defined in §303.15 of this chapter in connection with parental kidnapping, child custody or visitation cases; or

(5) A State agency that is administering a program operated under a State plan under titles IV-B or IV-E of the Act.

(d) *Authorized purposes for requests and scope of information provided.* The State PLS shall obtain location information under this section only for the purposes specified in paragraphs (d)(1) and (d)(2) of this section.

(1) *To locate an individual with respect to a child in a IV-D, non-IV-D, IV-B, or IV-E case.* The State PLS shall locate individuals for the purpose of establishing parentage, or establishing, setting the amount of, modifying, or enforcing child support obligations or for determining who has or may have parental rights with respect to a child. For these purposes, only information available through the Federal PLS or the State PLS may be provided. This information is limited to Social Security Number(s), most recent address, employer name and address, employer identification number, wages or other income from, and benefits of, employment, including rights to, or enrollment in, health care coverage, and asset or debt information.

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(2) *To locate an individual sought for the unlawful taking or restraint of a child or for child custody or visitation purposes.* The State PLS shall locate individuals for the purpose of enforcing a State law with respect to the unlawful taking or restraint of a child or for making or enforcing a child custody or visitation determination as defined in section 463(d)(1) of the Act. For this purpose, only the information available through the Federal PLS or the State PLS may be provided. This information is limited to most recent address and place of employment of a parent or child.

(e) *Locate information subject to disclosure.* Subject to the requirements of this section and the privacy safeguards required under section 454(26) of the Act and the family violence indicators under section 307.11(f)(1)(x) of this part, the State PLS shall disclose the following information to authorized persons for authorized purposes,

(1) Federal PLS information described in sections 453 and 463 of the Act; and

(2) Information from in-state locate sources.

§ 302.36 Provision of services in interstate and intergovernmental IV-D cases.

(a) The State plan shall provide that:

(1) The State will extend the full range of services available under its IV-D plan to any other State in accordance with the requirements set forth in § 303.7 of this chapter; and

(2) The State will extend the full range of services available under its IV-D plan to all Tribal IV-D programs, including promptly opening a case where appropriate.

(b) The State plan shall provide that the State will establish a central registry for interstate IV-D cases in accordance with the requirements set forth in § 303.7(a) of this chapter.

[53 FR 5256, Feb. 22, 1988, as amended at 61 FR 67240, Dec. 20, 1996; 69 FR 16672, Mar. 30, 2004]

§ 302.37 [Reserved]

§ 302.38 Payments to the family.

The State plan shall provide that any payment required to be made under §§ 302.32 and 302.51 of this part to a family will be made to the resident parent, legal guardian, or caretaker relative having custody of or responsibility for the child or children.

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§ 302.39 Standards for program operation.

The State plan shall provide that the IV-D agency will comply with the standards for program operation and the organizational and staffing requirements prescribed by part 303 of this chapter.

[41 FR 55348, Dec. 20, 1976]

§ 302.40 [Reserved]

§ 302.50 Assignment of rights to support.

The State plan shall provide as follows:

(a) An assignment of support rights, as defined in § 301.1 of this chapter, constitutes an obligation owed to the State by the individual responsible for providing such support. Such obligation shall be established by:

(1) Order of a court of competent jurisdiction or of an administrative process; or

(2) Except for obligations assigned under 42 CFR 433.146, other legal process as established by State laws, such as a legally enforceable and binding agreement.

(b) The amount of the obligation described in paragraph (a) of this section shall be:

(1) The amount specified in the order of a court of competent jurisdiction or administrative process which covers the assigned support rights.

(2) If there is no court or administrative order, an amount determined in writing by the IV-D agency as part of the legal process referred to in paragraph (a)(2) of this section in accordance with the requirements of § 302.56.

(c) The obligation described in paragraph (a) of this section shall be deemed for collection purposes to be collectible under all applicable State and local processes.

(d) Any amounts which represent support payments collected from an individual responsible for providing support under the State plan shall reduce, dollar for dollar, the amount of his obligation under this section.

(e) No portion of any amounts collected which represent an assigned support obligation defined under § 301.1 of this chapter may be used to satisfy a medical support obligation unless the